Momentum Development Incorporated

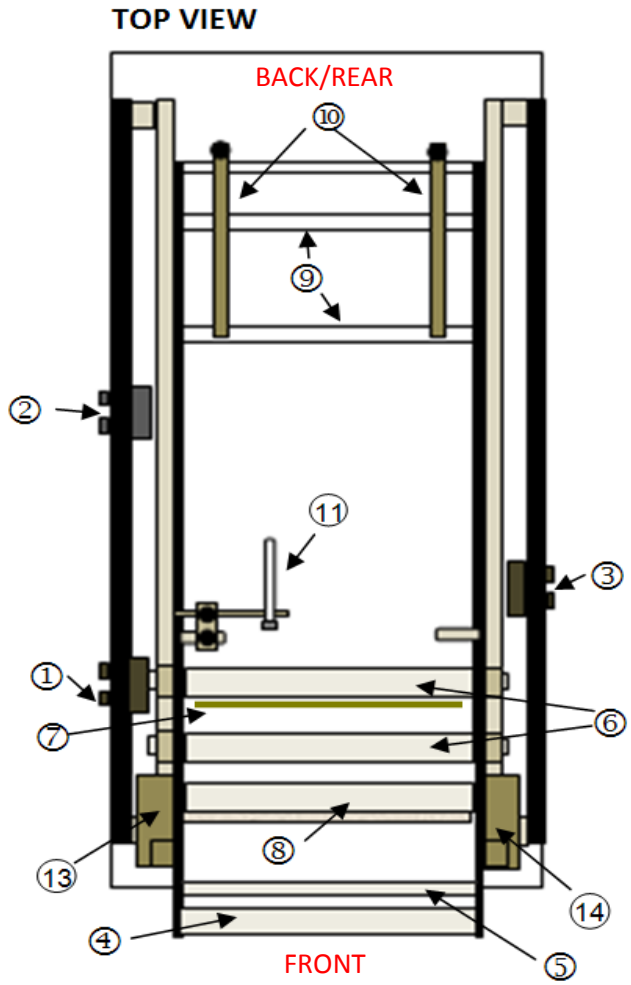
Custom Label Applicator

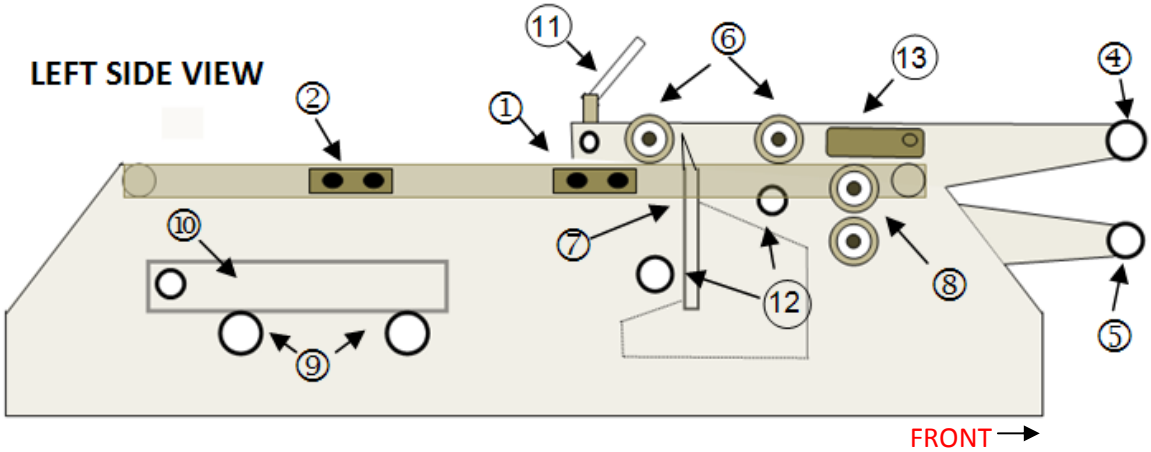
PROUDLY MADE IN THE USA

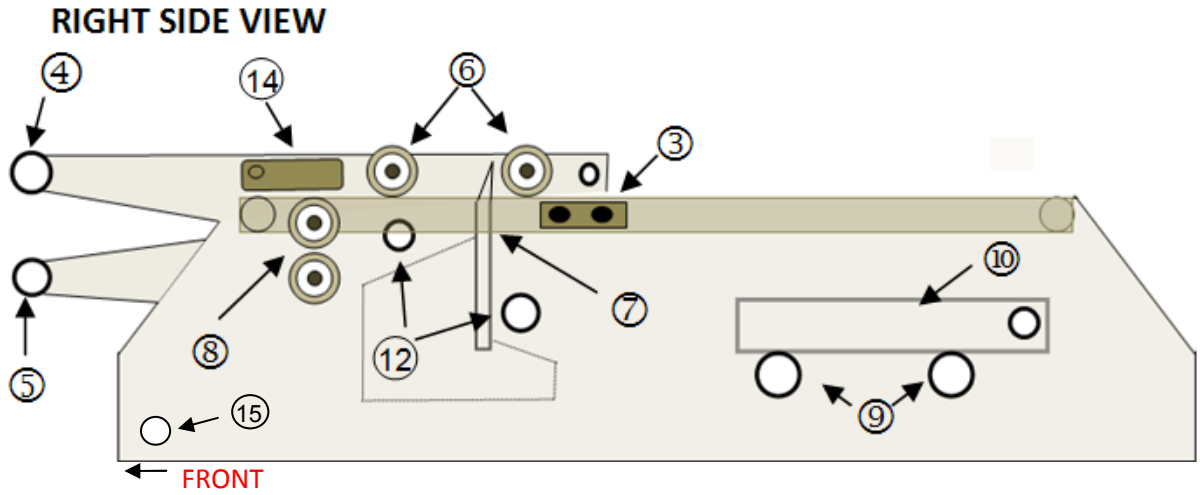
User guide

Machine components

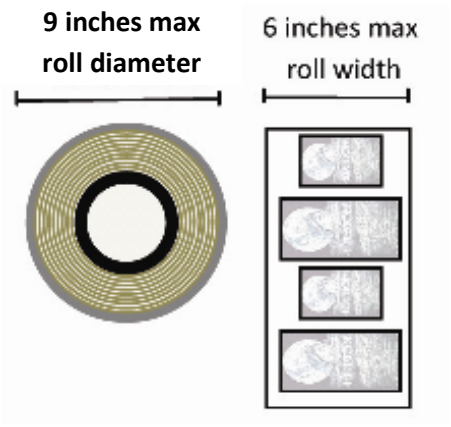
1 Carriage stop A (left side)
2 Carriage stop B (left side)
3 Carriage stop C (right side)
4 Carriage handle (top)
5 Release handle (bottom)
6 Upper rollers
7 Label separator blade
8 Feed rollers (upper and lower)
9 Label cradle rollers
10 Label guide arms
11 Bottle position guide
12 Label guide rollers
13 Left carriage cam
14 Right carriage cam
15 Bottle position guide storage dowel



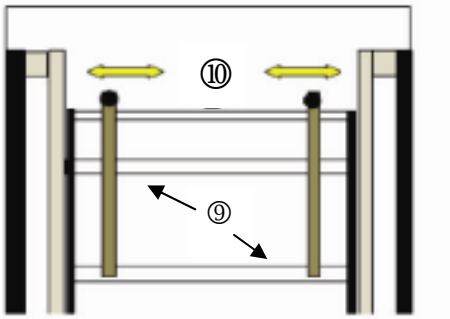




Label threading

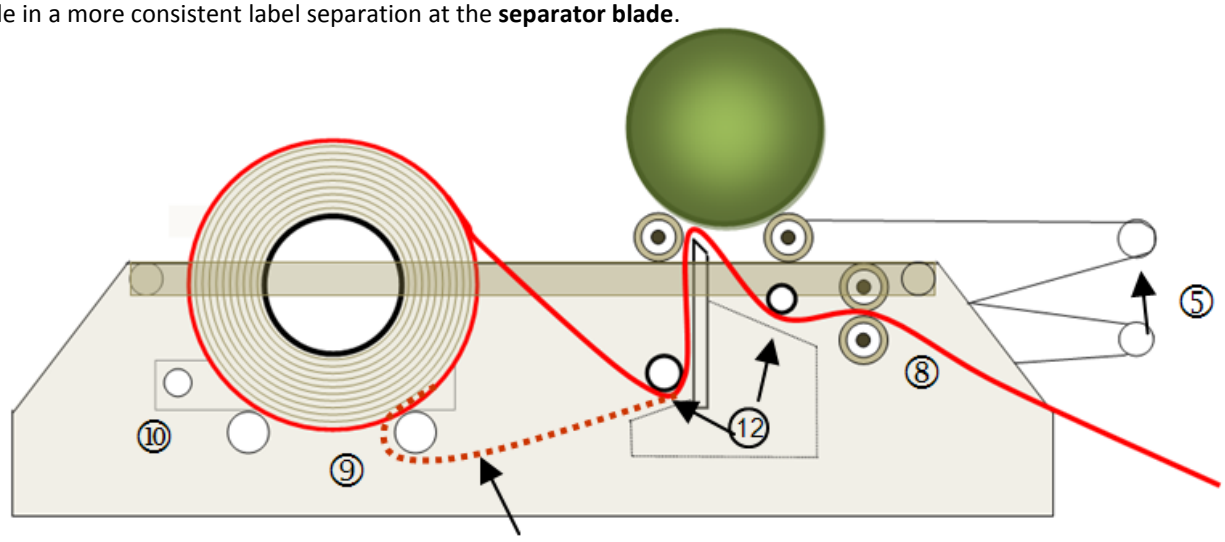


Momentum Development's Custom Label Applicator is designed to handle standard rolls of pressure sensitive labels up to six inches in width and a roll diameter of nine inches. The machine will accommodate any roll core size.



- Place roll of labels onto the **label cradle rollers**[9] with the labels coming forward off the top of the roll, face up. You may find that placing the roll of labels on a table behind the machine will make more room for your hands, making the threading process easier.
- Feed the labels under the **label guide roller**[12] and up between the **separator blade** and the gray rubber **upper roller**. Place the roll of labels on the label cradle rollers.
- Feed the labels under the **label guide roller** [12].
- Place the leading edge of the label backing paper between the gray rubber **upper and lower feed rollers**[8], then push the **carriage handle** forward an inch or so to pull the label paper through the **feed rollers**.
- Loosen the thumb screws and slide the **label guide arms**[10] until the arms are slightly touching (not tight) the roll of labels. Horizontally position the roll of labels on the **label cradle rollers** where you wish. Retighten the thumb screws to keep the **label guide arms** in place.
- Lift the **release handle**[5] to move the labels into alignment with the label roll and make sure the labels are aligned (straight) with the edge of the **separator blade**. Pull the label backing paper toward the front of the machine to remove slack in the backing paper. Drop the **release handle** to secure the labels between the **feed rollers**.

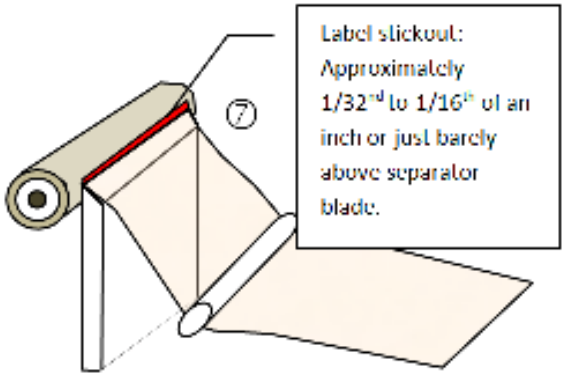
Alternate label feed: For both larger (full) and smaller diameter rolls, as well as for labels using a thinner or thicker than standard stock, you may find that feeding the labels under the forward **label carriage roller**[9] will aide in a more consistent label separation at the **separator blade**.

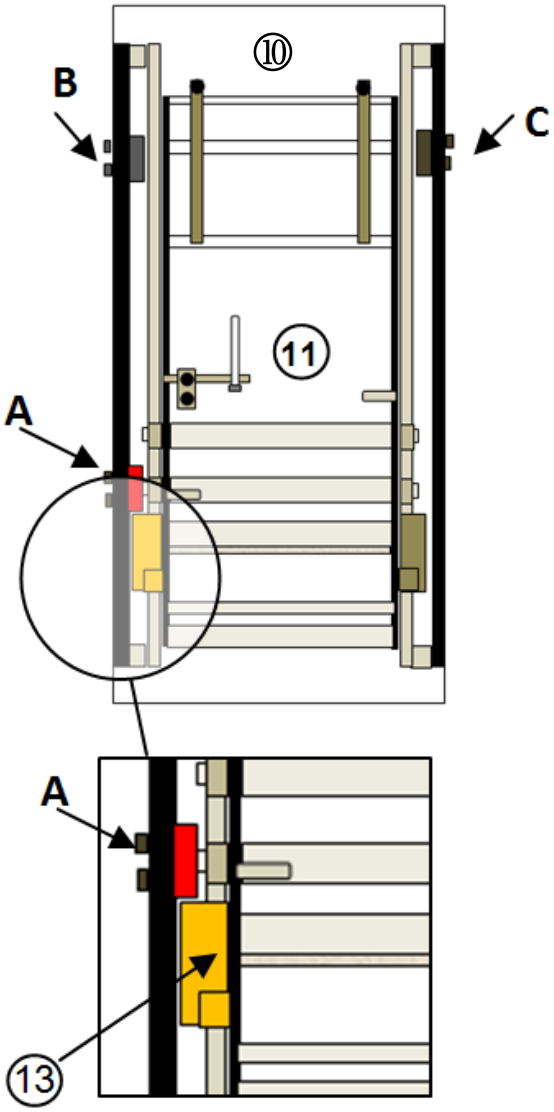


Alternate label feed

Setting the carriage stops for a single label

- Start with **carriage stops A, B and C** at the back of the machine. Only **stop A** is used to apply a single label.
- With the labels threaded, jog (slightly push) the carriage forward slightly until the label stickout is 1/32nd to 1/16th of an inch above the **separator blade**(7).





- Place container to be labeled on the **upper rollers**.
- Remove the **bottle position guide**(11) from the storage dowel located at the front of the machine. Attach bottle position guide to either the left or right dowels to the rear of the upper rollers. Move the container and guide, in conjunction with the **label guide arms**(10) to set the vertical position of the label on the container. Retighten the thumb screws.
- With the carriage pulled completely to the front of the machine, slowly push the **carriage handle** away from you. The label will separate from the backing paper and adhere to the container as you push the carriage forward and the label passes over the **separator blade**(7). Watch closely as you continue to push the carriage. When the label has been applied to the container and the next label becomes barely visible above the separator blade, stop pushing.
- Loosen the thumb screws on **carriage stop A** (the foremost stop on the left side of the machine). Slide the stop forward until in connects with the **left carriage cam**(13). Retighten the thumb screws.
- Remove the container from the upper rollers. Pull the carriage handle back toward you until the carriage stops. Check the label stickout height and adjust as needed. The machine is now ready to accept the next container for labeling.
- A slight adjustment to the label stickout height may be needed periodically as labeling proceeds to compensate for any progressive error in label spacing.

Setting the stops for a front and back label

First thing:

Determine the gap between the front and back labels

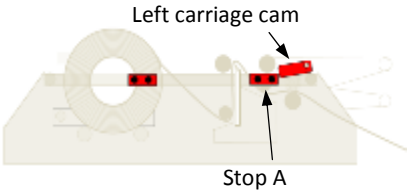
You'll need to take three measurements:

- ✓ The distance around the container (circumference) = **C**
- ✓ The width of the front label = **FL**
- ✓ The width of the back label = **BL**

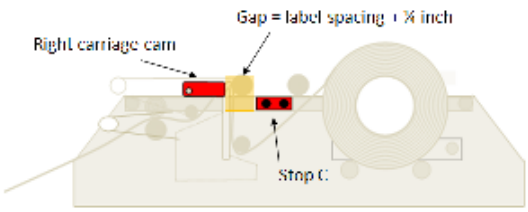
Use the measurements in the following formula to determine the spacing between front and back labels:

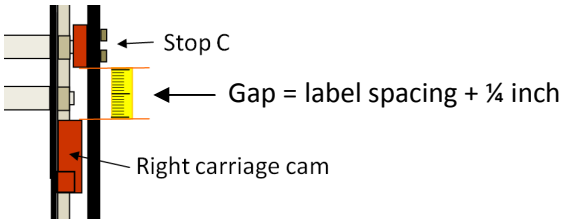
C – (FL+BL) / 2 = S (label spacing between front/back labels)

- Place container to be labeled on the **upper rollers** and apply the front label by slowly pushing the carriage handle toward the back of the machine. Stop pushing the carriage when the front label has just come off the **separator blade**. The back label should not be visible at this point. Slide **stop A** to contact the **left carriage cam.** Tighten thumb screws on **stop A.** Do not move the carriage.

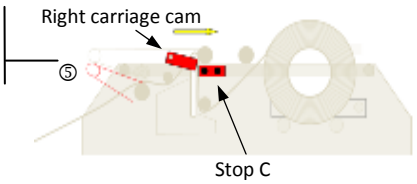


- Use the formula described at the top of this page to determine the spacing between labels. **Add .25 inches** to the result to determine the gap between the right carriage cam and stop C. Using a measuring tape or ruler, slide **stop C** toward the **right carriage cam** until the gap equals the label spacing **plus .25 inches**. Tighten thumb screws on stop C to set the gap.



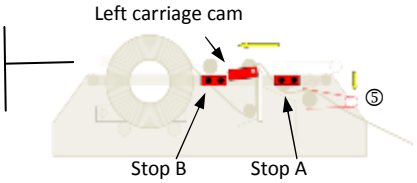


- With the **left carriage cam** in contact with **stop A**, lift the **release handle**[5] and push the carriage forward until the **right carriage cam** contacts **stop C**.



- Drop the **release handle**[5] and slowly push the carriage forward until the back label is applied to the container. Watch closely, and when the back label has come off the **separator blade**, remove the container.

- Continue to push the carriage forward until the next front label sticks out 1/32nd to 1/16th of an inch above the **separator blade**. Slide **stop B** forward until it contacts the **left carriage cam**. Tighten the thumb screws on stop B.



- Pull the carriage back to the start position. The machine is now ready for production use. Place container on upper rollers, push carriage forward until it stops, lift and hold release handle and push until carriage stops, drop release handle and push until carriage stops. Remove container and return carriage to start position.

Note: Verify the two gaps between the front and back labels are the same. Slightly move **stop C** forward or backwards to equalize the gaps if needed. If the gap difference is 1/4 of an inch, move **stop C** by 1/8th of an inch to adjust. For example, if the first gap between the front and back label is 1/4 less than the second gap, move **stop C** toward the front of the machine by 1/8th of an inch. If the first gap is 1/4 inch greater than the second gap, move **stop C** toward the back of the machine by 1/8th of an inch.

Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible solutions
Labels are not straight when applied to container	✓ Make sure label is even with edge of separator blade. Lift tension release handle and move backing paper to straighten labels. ✓ Make sure label machine is square with counter or table. Waste label backing paper should come out of machine unimpeded and square with edge of counter or table. **Do not position label machine on corner or at angle with table/counter edge.** ✓ Make sure containers are placed flush with both rubber container rollers.
Gap between front and back labels not the same on both sides	✓ Adjust **stop C** to reduce or increase the gap. If the first gap is larger than the second gap, move stop C to the rear of the machine. If the first gap is smaller than the second gap, move stop C to the front of the machine. Move stop C in small increments. A 1/4 inch difference in gaps is adjusted by an 1/8th inch movement of the stop.
Machine carriage sticks or hangs up while pushing forward	✓ Do not step on waste label backing paper that may be lying on the floor. Route the waste into a receptacle or tear off and throw away waste paper frequently. ✓ When applying back label, release the tension release handle before continuing to push the carriage forward to allow the right carriage cam to return to the up position. ✓ Do not push forward with downward or upward pressure on carriage handle.
Label corners/edges fold over or crease	✓ Label stickout above the separator blade is too high. Stick out should be no more than an 1/8th of an inch, or just visible between roller and separator blade. Adjust start position label stickout for front/single label or **stop C** for back label. There should be no stickout for back label. ✓ Labels were stored in a hot place. Store label rolls in ambient temperature condition.
Labels are not applied at the same height on the container	✓ Operator is not placing container on upper rollers in consistent position. Butt container up against bottle position guide each time. ✓ Bottle position guide thumb screws are not tight, changing position during operation. Tighten. ✓ Label guide arms thumb screws are not tight, changing position during operation. Tighten
Label stick out at start position is not consistent during operation	✓ Readjust stops to ensure proper label stickout. ✓ Tighten **stop A/B/C** thumb screws to make sure they are not moving at impact with carriage cams. ✓ Operator error. Do not step on waste backing paper that may be lying on the floor. Push carriage all the way to the stops. Return carriage all the way to the start position. ✓ Progressive error. Slight variations in label spacing on the roll can compound over the course of use. It may be necessary to periodically adjust label stick out without adjusting stops. Make sure labels and machine is at room temperature before beginning operation.

Care and maintenance

- While the Custom Label Applicator is an extremely safe machine to use, please use caution and keep your fingers away from the rollers during operation to avoid pinching.
- The upper rollers and feed rollers are made of natural rubber. Do not use petroleum based solvents for cleaning.
- If the rollers or other machine parts need to be cleaned, use mild soap and water and a soft cloth.
- Bearings are internally lubricated. Momentum Development does not recommend the use of any lubrication.

Tips

- When finished labeling and removing a roll of labels from the machine, always leave 18-24 inches of label backing paper at the beginning of the roll to make rethreading easier and eliminate label waste.
- Some labels are made with a thicker stock and may need extra tension on the roll of labels near the end of a roll. Slightly increasing side pressure on the side of the label roll using the label guide arms, provides additional tension to the roll for proper label feed.
- Push the carriage handle straight forward and pull straight back – do not apply downward or upward pressure on the handle while pushing or pulling the carriage.
- Labels feed better at room temperature. Too cold and the labels get stiff. Too hot and the labels and backing paper can stretch and fold over.
- Setting the stops using an empty bottle will make it easier to see when the labels have completely come off the separator blade.

Service and support

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Contact us about special labeling requirements and machine customizations.

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One year warranty